

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE

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BANBRIDGE

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Principal: Mrs R Woods BEd, DipQUB, PQH(NI)

Chairperson of the Board of Governors: Mrs M Quinn CBE

Maintained Secondary

Age Range 11 – 18

Approved Admissions Number for 2026 – 125

Approved Enrolment Number for 2026 – 570

OPEN EVENING/NIGHT

Parents and prospective pupils are invited to visit the school on

Thursday 15th January, 2026 at 6.30 pm

**RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND PRINCIPAL
IN RELATION TO ADMISSIONS TO THE SCHOOL**

The Board of Governors draws up the Admissions Criteria and delegates to an Admissions Subcommittee, which includes the Principal, the responsibility for applying these criteria. Any reference herein to the term Board of Governors includes any Committee or Subcommittee appointed by the Board of Governors for the purposes of applying the Admission Criteria set out herein.

ADMISSION TO YEAR 8

(Either in September 2026 or during the course of the 2026/2027 school year)

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 27 January 2025 at 12 noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 19 February 2025 at 12 noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. **Applications/Documents received after 4pm on 24 February 2026 will not be processed until the close of the post primary admissions procedure.**

The Board of Governors of St Patrick's College, Banbridge has determined that the following criteria shall be applied by the Governors, in the event of the number of pupils applying for places in Year 8 in September 2026 being greater than the admissions number, in the order set down below. In selecting children for admission, children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the school will be selected before any child not so resident.

1. Pupils who normally reside in the following parishes (not listed in any order of preference).

Banbridge	Dromore	Tullylish	Magheralin
Aghadarg	Annaclone	Ballymore/Gargory (Rathfriland)	
Drumgath	Donaghmore	Mullaghbrack	Dromara
Drumgooland	Glenn		
2. Pupils who have brothers/sisters, half-brothers/half-sisters presently enrolled in the school or are the eldest child in family.
3. Pupils for whom St Patrick's College, Banbridge is the nearest maintained post-primary school.
4. In the event of oversubscription within any of the above criteria the following sub-criteria will be applied, as appropriate to identify which children should be admitted.
 - (i) Pupils regarded by the Board of Governors, on the basis of supporting evidence provided by parents and/or statutory agencies, as having Special Circumstances, e.g. medical, social or security factors.
 - (ii) Pupils will be selected on the basis of proximity of parents'/guardians' home to the school as measured by the shortest walking route by public thoroughfare. Priority will be given to those nearest to the school.

DUTY TO VERIFY

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any applicant’s Transfer Application.

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors by the deadline given, this will result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place. Similarly, if information is supplied which appears to be false or misleading in any material way, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 8

Year	Admissions Number	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2023/2024	125	125	125
2024/2025	125	125	125
2025/2026*	125	125	125

**The Total Admissions for year 2026/2027 includes all Year 8 children admitted to the school including those who have a statement of special educational needs and/or may be attending SPiMS.
(SPiMS = Specialist Provision in Mainstream School)*

ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR YEARS 9 – 12

Applications for admission to Years 9 – 14 in St Patrick’s College, Banbridge will be considered by an Admissions Subcommittee using the following criteria.

1. Pupils will be considered for admission provided that the school will not exceed its enrolment number (570) as determined by the Department of Education.
2. Pupils will be considered for admission provided that, in the opinion of the Board of Governors, this would not prejudice the efficient use of the school’s resources.
3. Pupils regarded by the Board of Governors, on the basis of written or other evidence supplied by the parent/guardians and Statutory or other agencies as having Special Circumstances e.g. social, medical or other, which in the opinion of the Board of Governors merit priority being given to the children’s admission.
4. Pupils who normally reside in the following parishes (not listed in any order of preference).

Banbridge	Dromore	Tullylish	Magheralin
Aghaderg	Annaclone	Ballymore/Gargory (Rathfriland)	
Drumgath	Donaghmore	Mullaghbrack	Dromara
Drumgooland	Glenn		
5. Pupils who have brothers/sisters, half-brothers/half-sisters presently enrolled in the school or are the eldest child in family.

In the event of over subscription in any one of the criteria, taken in order, pupils will be selected on the basis of proximity of parents’/guardians’ home to the school as measured by the shortest walking route by public thoroughfare.

ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR YEARS 13 and 14

The following criteria for admission will be applied in the order set down:

Application to attend St Patrick’s College is interpreted by the Board of Governors’ as an indication that the parents and the child concerned accept and are in agreement with the ethos, philosophy, aims, policies and regulations of the school including any code of conduct and discipline policy of the school. Information in relation to these may be obtained from the school.

Admissions criteria for entry September 2026

1. To study Advanced level at St Patrick's College, pupils must demonstrate their ability and commitment to pursuing their studies to A level and must have achieved 5 GCSE passes at grade C or above, one of which must be English or Maths. Additionally, students who wish to study subjects at A level may be required to have achieved Grades A*-B in these subjects.
2. All applicants seeking admission to Year 13 must provide satisfactory reports from their Year Head in relation to attendance, punctuality and conduct. Applicants from other schools may be considered subject to acceptable school reports, attendance and work records and behaviour.
3. The admission of a pupil shall not result in an increase in class size beyond that which is deemed appropriate by the school.
4. If there are more applicants than the number of places available in the year group or desired subject groups, priority will be given to students presently attending the school.

Admission into Year 14 from Year 13 is dependent upon a satisfactory academic performance at AS level as determined by the Senior Management team in consultation with the relevant Advanced Level teachers.